

**Mayor's Council on Disability
Chattanooga, Tennessee**

**Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2006**

**Sandra Booher, Chairperson
Bea Lyons, Vice Chair
Katie Jones, Secretary
Jill Hindman, Parliamentarian**

Board Members:

**Kim Williams
Jim Queen
Dr Rick Rader
Mary Ann Schenk
Kathy Purnell
Gina Turley
Jennifer Nichols
Susan Crisp
Virginia Piper
Karl Epperson
Annie Ruth Palmer**

Matt Lea, Liaison

Assistant to Mayor for Special Projects

Michelle Michaud, Liaison

Communications Director Mayor's Office

**Meeting called to order by Chairperson,
Sandra Booher.**

Those in attendance:

Katye Jones

Rick Rader

Sandra Booher

Jennifer Nichols

Jill Hindman

Bea Lyons

Jim Queen

Gina Turley

Matt Lea

Ken Fritz, City Attorney's Office

October minutes approved.

Old Business:

Go!Fest: Meeting with Friends of the Festival on November 20th at 10:00 a.m. at the DRC room 1A

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White Cane Day is celebrated on October 15th for people in Chattanooga and throughout the state. It's a National Commemorative Day about White Canes. We did have a proclamation from the Mayor proclaiming the day.

Stigma Free: Input about stigma and disability from the students at UTC was overall pretty negative. We're continuing research on this project. Through marketing and focus groups, the Board for Defeat Of Stigma decided to change their name to Label Me Not. Burl Lawrence, president of Parkinson's Support Group here in Chattanooga, suggested the Council take a

proactive role in educating the City regarding the concerns and challenges that people with Parkinsonian Disorders have. A letter to the editor was published in the Times Free Press with concerns of crossing streets, navigating and challenges in mobility. Mr. Lawrence has also written to Dr. Scales of the Education Department suggesting offering continuing education to elementary, Junior High school and High school kids on Parkinson's disorders.

Matt Lea led the discussion regarding by-laws for the Council. A draft was passed out and after lengthy discussions; the by-laws are still in the drafting phase.

Any expenses for future events should be submitted to the City of Chattanooga. The City is making an effort to formulate a small budget for the Disability Council for these purposes.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs staff met with a group to look at our public accommodations practices here in the city of

Chattanooga. As a result, the O.M.A. has come up with a four-part plan. Jan Johnson, the Chief of Staff with the O.M.A. is working with the group to advocate for centralized policies.

New Business:

Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare is having their conference on November 16 and members of the Mayor's Council will be presenting workshops on inclusion and accessibility.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs, Legal Aid, and West Tennessee Legal Services, is offering an architectural conference on A.D.A. compliance, December 1st. One of the lead HUD department heads that actually wrote the A.D.A. compliance guidelines will be here working with architects to help them understand how they have to comply with the

A.D.A. It is expected that anywhere from 50 to 100 architects will attend.

Jim Queen stated they are expecting 250 attendees at the Public Transit Conference at the The Choo Choo theatre November 15, 2006, starting at 8:30 am.

November 10, 2006 there will be a meeting of the Tennessee Chapter of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The meeting will look at the myths and realities and the real life experiences of people with Developmental Disabilities who will be representing themselves. Those on the panel will include, a professor of Philosophy from UTC, head of the Office of Civil Rights from Atlanta, Head of the Vanderbilt University Medical Bioethics committee, Mr. Walter Grantham, who is the City Guardian leader, some parent advocates, physicians and lawyers.

Phillip Stevens father passed away. Phillip is with 311. The Mayor's Council will send a

**card from the members expressing their
condolences.**

Next meeting date December 04, 2006

Meeting adjourned.

**Respectfully submitted,
Katie Jones, Secretary**